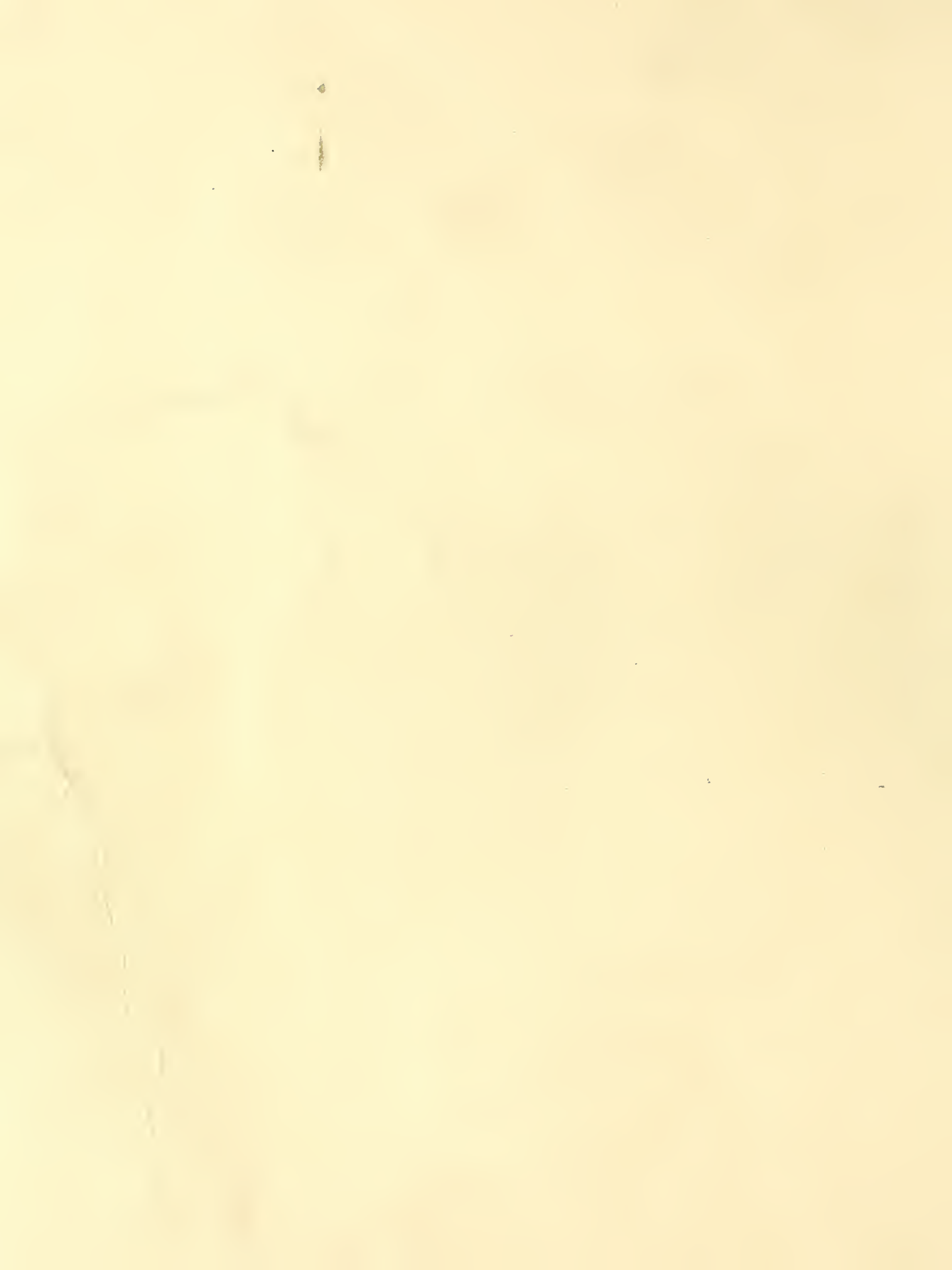


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OCTOBER 1975

VEGETABLE Situation



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THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

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Approved by
The Outlook and Situation Board
and Summary released
October 23, 1975

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SUMMARY

Grower prices this fall for *fresh market vegetables* are likely to be moderately above a year earlier as supplies are trimmed slightly. Retail prices during the fourth quarter can also be expected to be the same or slightly above the third quarter of 1975 and moderately above the fourth quarter of last year.

Acreage of vegetables for fall harvest is only 1 percent larger than a year earlier, and if yields are about on trend, total output could turn out as much as 6 percent less than last year's high-yielding crop. The largest acreage gains are in the salad vegetables—tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers—while broccoli and cabbage plantings are both substantially smaller than a year earlier.

Fresh market vegetable prices received by growers showed some seasonal decline late this summer, but third quarter prices remained more than a fifth higher than last year. Retail fresh vegetable prices have also reflected the higher farm prices, but for the first 9 months of 1975 they rose at a slower rate than farm prices, suggesting a narrowing of retail margins.

Considerably larger *processed vegetable* supplies are practically assured this marketing season which ends next summer. In addition to materially larger carryovers of many important items, the tomato crop is record large, and there are increases in sweet corn, lima beans, and cucumber pickles to offset a reduced crop of snap beans, peas, beets, and cabbage for sauerkraut. Stocks of frozen vegetables on October 1 at 1.7 billion pounds were record large for the month. Wholesale prices for processed vegetables are likely to average steady to slightly weaker this season. Already there have been more promotional allowances offered to buyers than during the 2 previous marketing seasons.

Processed vegetable disappearance ought to exceed the lackluster 1974/75 performance and move nearer to the level of 2 years ago. With larger supplies available, and with a moderate degree of economic recovery expected, these two factors should provide the stimulus for increased use.

The 267 million cwt. U.S. fall *potato* production is down 8 percent from the record crop of last year, but with smaller shrinkage expected, saleable supplies may be down less. Production in the Eastern

States is down more than a fifth, with Midwest output also off nearly a fifth. In the West the expected tonnage is 2 percent more than last year. These supply conditions suggest less than usual price differences between round white and Russet varieties this season. However, moderately higher prices for round white and red varieties are expected. Retail prices will probably show some up-trend during the storage period if growers follow an orderly market pattern.

Sweetpotato production moved up slightly to 14 million cwt. this fall. Steady to moderately lower prices to growers may be expected. Processor demand may not be as strong as last year, but the

fresh market prices may be as high or higher.

The *dry edible bean* crop of 18.3 million cwt. is 12 percent below the large 1974 crop. Despite a relatively large carryover, available supplies are smaller and the bean price prospect is stronger than a year ago. With a short crop of navy beans in Michigan, average prices for white classes are likely to be much improved over a year ago. However, the larger 1975 crops in States where pinto beans are important suggests steady to weaker prices for this class. Exports during 1974/75 totaled a record high 5.1 million bags, but shipments may be down some in 1975/76 because of the smaller supply.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND OUTLOOK

FRESH VEGETABLES

Substantially Higher Prices This Year

After a year of stable prices to growers of fresh vegetables in 1974, prices rose markedly in each quarter of 1975. There was some of the usual seasonal decline late in the 3rd quarter, but for the year 1975, prices received by growers may average about 15 percent more than 1974, and close to 80 percent more than in 1967.

The index of fall vegetable prices to growers is expected to average moderately higher than the 172 (1967=100) reported for September.

The total farm value of fresh vegetables produced the first half of this year was \$806 million—a gain of 16 percent over 1974. This figure includes winter and spring output of 14 vegetables and melons. Spring onions are excluded.

Fresh vegetables: First six months supply

Supply	1974	1975
	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
U.S. winter production	34,811	33,403
U.S. spring production	53,050	52,678
U.S. spring onions	6,199	5,248
Total imports	14,499	11,888
Total six months supply	108,559	103,217

Fresh vegetable tonnage produced the first half of 1975 was 2 percent less than a year earlier. This slightly smaller domestic output plus a 19 percent reduction in imports explain the higher prices which have prevailed much of this year. The adjacent table shows that total fresh vegetable supplies the first half of 1975 were 5 percent less than last year.

Retail fresh vegetable prices have also reflected higher prices to growers, but for the first nine months of this year they rose at a slower pace than farm prices for fresh vegetables. It appears that retailers' margins narrowed in this period and also in the fourth quarter of 1974.

Quarterly farm prices for fresh vegetables¹
1967=100

Year	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	Annual
1968	123	113	91	108	109
1969	109	109	97	129	111
1970	130	116	102	100	112
1971	129	132	108	140	127
1972	134	130	126	133	131
1973	162	187	147	131	157
1974	150	164	148	164	156
1975	177	191	181	² 180	² 182

¹ Excludes potatoes. ² Estimate.

USDA SRS

Quarterly retail prices for fresh vegetables¹
1967=100

Year	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	Annual
1968	114	113	99	106	108
1969	114	115	106	119	114
1970	130	131	111	111	121
1971	119	137	120	129	126
1972	137	134	128	133	133
1973	151	167	153	138	152
1974	150	160	152	151	153
1975	168	169			

¹ Excludes potatoes. ² Estimate.

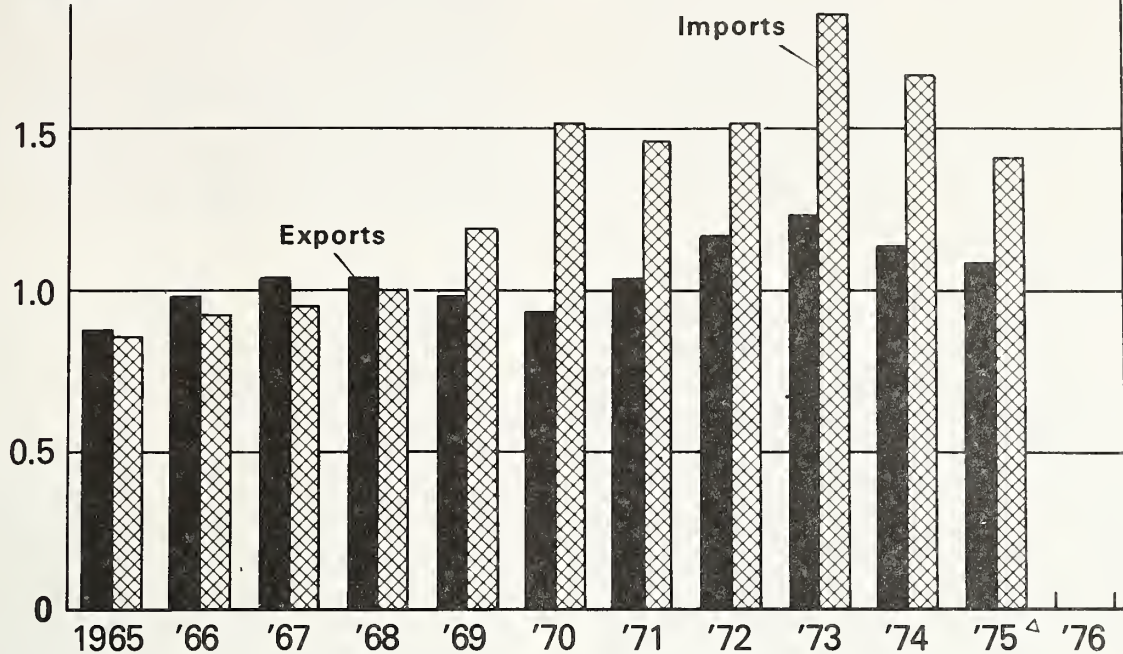
USDA BLS derived

Fall Acreage and Supply Prospects

Fall vegetable acreage for harvest in the United States is 1 percent more than in the last quarter of 1974. Potential production of 14 crops, should

FRESH VEGETABLES-FOREIGN TRADE*

BIL. LBS.

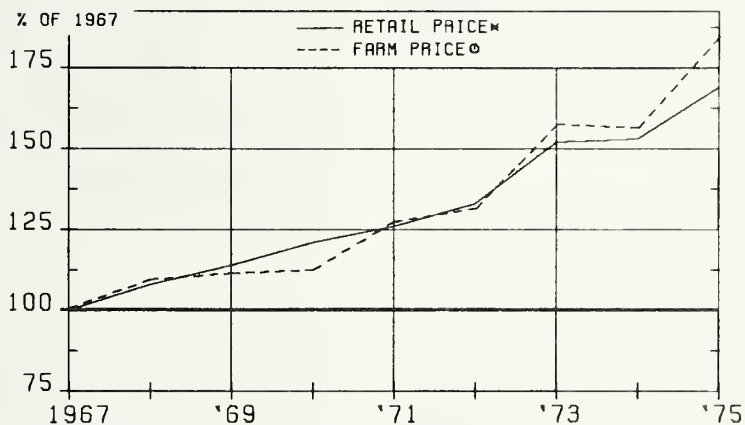


* INCLUDES MELONS. Δ ESTIMATE.

USDA

NEG. ERS 317-75 (10)

FRESH VEGETABLE PRICE INDEXES



* DERIVED FROM BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS (EXCLUDING POTATOES).
 ◊ COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET, S.A.S.-U.S.D.A.

USDA

NEG. ERS 2236-75 (10)

yields turn out to be close to historical averages, would be 6 percent less than the high yields of 1974. Under favorable weather conditions, and noting the substantial increase in high yielding staked tomato acreages in Florida, it is possible that this decline would be the maximum.

The largest acreage gains are for salad vegetables, tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers, while broccoli and cabbage plantings are both substantially smaller than a year earlier. In California and Arizona, a smaller combined cantaloupe acreage is offset by larger plantings of honeydews.

The New Labor Legislation in California

Under provisions of California's new farm labor law, and after more than 200 representative elections had been held, the two rival unions, International Brotherhood of Teamsters and United Farm Workers had both won substantial numbers of workers. It was also apparent that most workers desire some union representation.

Although a large number of elections have been held, some have been challenged, and run-offs may be held in some instances. Very few results have been certified thus far by the California Agricultural Labor Relations Board.

Several legal issues have been raised by this new law; some have no precedent in the industrial labor sector. Chief among these is the question of right of access to growers' property. Also the Labor Board recently ruled that multi-employer bargaining units are not allowable. This ruling was made against the 156 farms in the Western Growers Association which now has a single contract with the Teamsters.

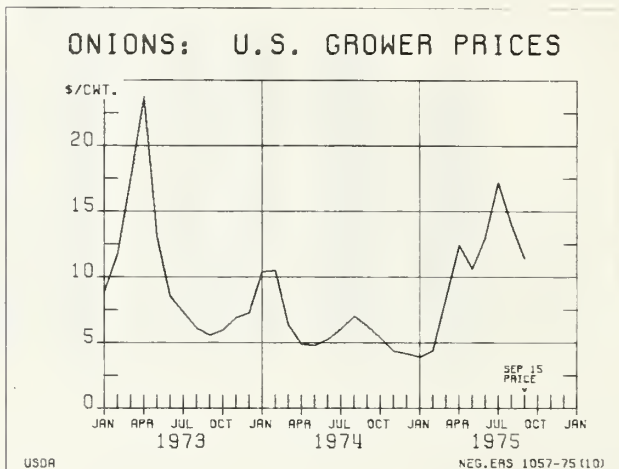
At this point, it is not possible to assess the impact of this new legislation, but in all probability, it will still provide growers the economic incentive to continue the trend to further mechanization. The industry in Texas, Washington, and Florida is watching closely how these developments are affecting the California industry.

PROSPECTS FOR LEADING ITEMS

Onions

Summer storage onion production is estimated at 22.4 million cwt., 6 percent less than last year, and prices are expected to hold well above a year earlier. The acreage for harvest was only 1 percent less and lower yields are largely responsible for the smaller output. In New York, hot dry weather promoted early maturity and reduced sizes, but crop quality is excellent. Late September rains delayed harvest in many sections. The late spring and resultant later maturity of the crop in several important Western States has tended to keep market

supplies on the light side through September and into early October. But extended sunshine and dry fall weather greatly aided harvest in the Pacific Northwest. Production is down in all major States except California, and the industry is entering the fall market period on a firm to strong price base. While some seasonal drop is expected, prices may hold well above a year earlier. In early October, New York and Michigan prices ranged from \$4.00-4.50 per 50 lb bag—about \$1.50 higher than 1974. Western onions were even higher relative to a year earlier. Large sizes are bringing a generous premium.



From mid-August to late September, weekly shipments reported by the Agricultural Marketing Service were heavier than in the corresponding period a year earlier. A review of the "unloads" suggests that shipments of the summer onion crop to major cities thus far in the 1975 season are about on a par with a year earlier, after allowance is made for a smaller Texas spring crop.

With the chance that storage supplies will be on the light side next March, Texas spring crop growers intend to plant 21,500 acres, 19 percent more than in 1975. Seeding of the new crop was slow due to rains associated with Hurricane Caroline. Planting became active in early October, and with excellent moisture conditions, germination should be good.

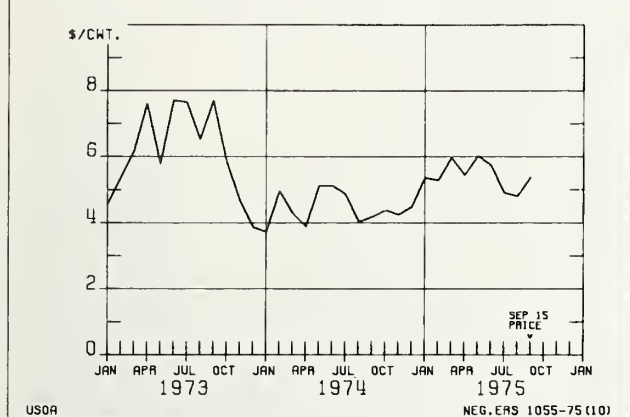
Cabbage

Acreage for fall harvest at 28,400 is 6 percent less than last year. Under average yield conditions, this would result in 12 percent smaller output, and firm to rising prices most of the rest of the year. Last year summer and fall supplies were relatively heavy.

Several States supply fall markets, with New York having the largest volume. September rains helped the Upstate crop; but on Long Island, rain delayed harvest progress. The same rains damaged

crops in both New Jersey and Pennsylvania, especially in low lying fields. Texas harvest began in the San Antonio area during October, and increased supplies from the Rio Grande Valley will be available in November and December. Yields from early plantings in the Valley are being reduced because of heavy rains associated with Hurricane Caroline. Heavy rains and continued wet weather in Florida have delayed cabbage planting in the Hastings area, and have lowered plant conditions on the east coast from upper Dade County northward through Martin County. Normal supplies from California will help take care of West Coast demand.

CABBAGE: U.S. GROWER PRICES



Celery

Acreage available for harvest in five States on October 1 was 8 percent less than the area growing on that date a year earlier. This has pushed prices well above a year earlier. California's acreage growing on October 1 was down slightly and Florida's plantings had not kept the same pace as a year earlier.

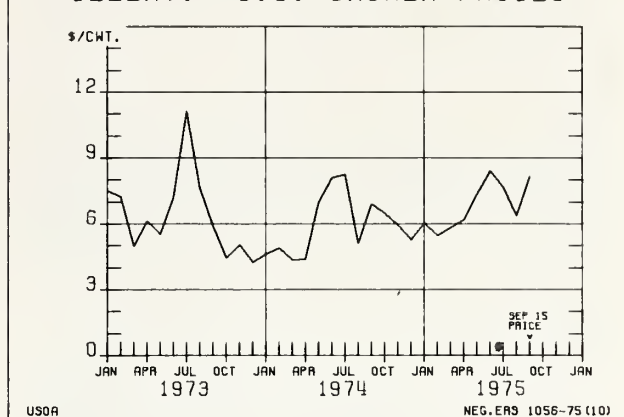
Only small acreages remained to be harvested in New York and Michigan on October 1, and the bulk of the supply coming to market in October was from Salinas, California. Later in the fall the California South Coast will become the major supply source, while the Florida shipping season will commence early in November.

Celery prices have been substantially higher than a year earlier as shipments lagged through much of August and September. A crate of 2 to 3 dozen bunches from Salinas, California brought \$4.65 in early October well above the \$3.22 a year earlier. Firm to strong prices are expected the balance of the year.

Carrots

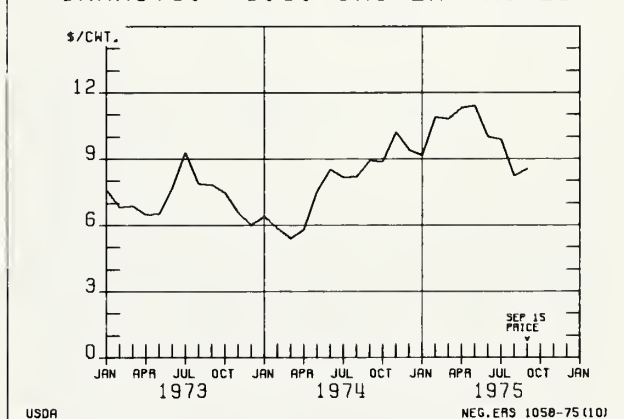
Fall carrot acreage for harvest of 23,300 acres is 1 percent smaller than last year. There are declines

CELERY: U.S. GROWER PRICES



or no changes in nearly all producing States. But California and Texas, the two dominant producers, have more. This fall, rainy weather was responsible for some acreage abandonment in Michigan. In the other States, Wisconsin, Minnesota, New Jersey, Ohio, Washington and Oregon, harvest takes place early in the fall. Texas and California will be supplying most all the available tonnage in November and December. It is possible that supplies at that time would exceed a year ago. Current prices for California carrots are the same to slightly below a year ago, but early October quotes from Michigan were moderately higher than 1974 prices.

CARROTS: U.S. GROWER PRICES



Sweet Corn

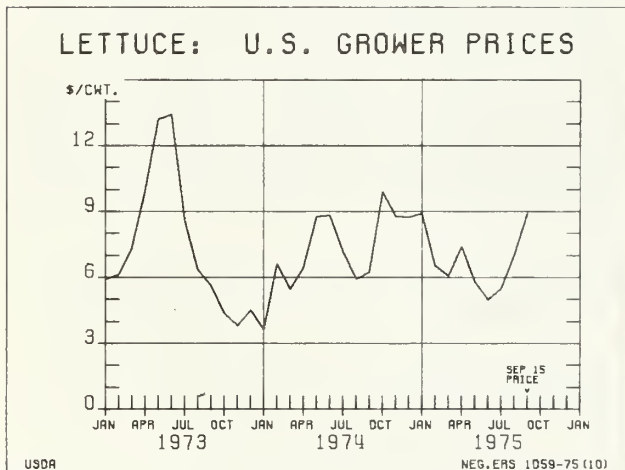
Most of the sweet corn available this time of year comes from the Florida Everglades, where a 3 percent larger crop is expected to be harvested. Harvest gained momentum during October and quality improved as the season progressed. Minor fall production for local markets takes place in New York and California, but Florida dominates

this market in November and December. Early October prices of 70¢ per dozen f.o.b. shipping point were 20¢ per dozen lower than f.o.b. quotes a month earlier from New York.

Lettuce

The U.S. 1975 fall crop of lettuce will be 4 percent smaller than last year if yields hold to the average of recent years, which should help improve what has been a depressed price situation. Acreage for harvest is 1 percent larger. These increases are in California, New Mexico and New Jersey, but smaller acreage in Texas and Arizona and the same in Florida.

The New Jersey crop marketings will extend through much of November, and New Mexico and Arizona will be contributing supplies the fall quarter. However, California shipments dominate the market with large quantities shipped from Salinas through November. Also several smaller shipping areas—Brentwood, San Joaquin Valley, and the Desert areas contribute supplies at various times in October and November.

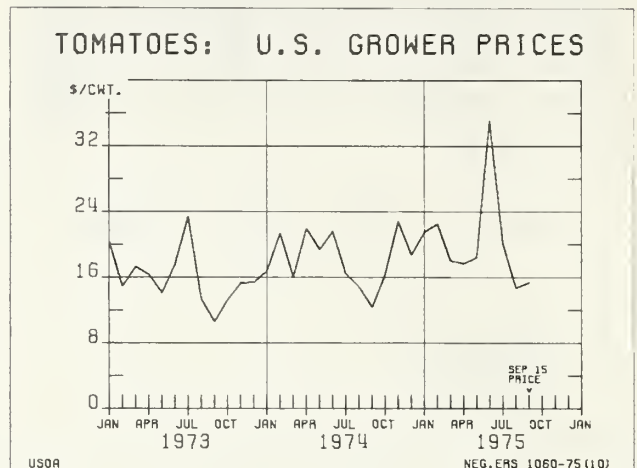


Lettuce prices to growers have been generally depressed much of the entire year as supplies have been generous for the most part. Production the first half of 1975 was more than a tenth larger than last year, and summer output was at least equal. In the summer, harvest activity was bunched to some extent, thus tending to put downward pressure on prices at certain times. With the prospect of lesser quantities available, prices to growers the remaining months of 1975 stand a better than even chance of improving. At the retail level, the BLS reported lower lettuce prices the second quarter of this year. The August price at 39.5¢ per head was about the same as in 1974.

Tomatoes

The fall tomato acreage, at 22,100 acres, is equally divided between California and Florida

this year, and is about a tenth larger than last year. Favorable prices in winter 1974 probably have encouraged this development. With larger supplies, shipping point prices in early October were roughly 13-15¢ a pound for mature greens in the more common fruit sizes. This compared with 16-17¢ last year for California stock.



In addition to California and Florida, a few other States contribute a very limited amount of tonnage in this period. Fall picking is now very active in the San Joaquin Valley and Central Coast areas of California, but most of the November-December California supply will originate from South Coast communities where the harvest will end in late December. The first Florida fall tomatoes reached markets in early October, but November begins a long shipping season which extends through the following spring. Looking at prospective fall acreage by itself, the staked crop appeared in good to very good condition as of early October. Plastic mulch helped drainage in fields that would have otherwise suffered damage from excessive rain.

Melons

Limited supplies of cantaloupes and honeydews will be available from the Imperial Valley of California and parts of Arizona through mid or late November. The available acreage of cantaloupes at 2,900 is down 6 percent from last season, and this decline is more than balanced by 220 more acres of honeydews. Early October shipping point prices from various Central Valley locations in California were at low to moderate levels, with cantaloupes at 17¢ a piece and honeydews 34-40¢. Some end of season price rise is expected for late October and November marketings.

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

Larger Tomato Crop Highlights Canned Vegetable Packs

Substantially larger supplies of canned and frozen vegetables are in view for this marketing year which ends next summer.

With reduced disappearance of 11 canned vegetable items in 1974/75, the carryover was larger than other recent seasons, and the materially larger tomato tonnage this year will boost total pack volume of canned vegetables. Excluding tomatoes, the pack of canned vegetables will probably be about the same as a year earlier. If current expectations are realized, processing vegetable tonnage this season will be boosted 11 percent over 1974. There are prospects for a record large tomato crop, plus increased tonnages of lima beans, cucumber pickles, and sweet corn to offset smaller crops of snap beans, beets, peas, and cabbage for sauerkraut. About 63 percent of all processed vegetable tonnage is tomatoes this year. With larger carryovers, canned tomatoes, tomato products peas, snapbeans, and sweet corn will be in substantially heavier supply this season. As of October 11, growers had delivered more than 7 million tons of tomatoes to California canners with peak weekly deliveries exceeding 800,000 tons.

Larger Frozen Vegetable Supplies, Too

Frozen vegetable supplies also are expected to be moderately larger this season. The carryover of seven leading items was sharply larger this year, and pack prospects suggest little overall change from 1974. Therefore, total supplies of frozen items are expected to be larger as well this year. Stocks of frozen vegetables on October 1 were 1.7 billion pounds, a record for the month, with some pack activity still ahead. Aggregate holdings are seasonally the largest in November.

Frozen vegetable stocks, October 1

Commodity	1973	1974	1975
	<i>Mil. lbs.</i>	<i>Mil. lbs.</i>	<i>Mil. lbs.</i>
Lima beans	86.2	94.2	106.8
Snap beans	224.2	231.6	254.8
Sweet corn ¹	314.6	350.6	342.1
Green peas ²	267.0	318.0	363.0
Spinach	77.7	89.3	85.4
Broccoli	65.8	87.0	88.0
Carrots ²	29.7	74.0	77.6
All frozen (excluding potatoes)	1,402.3	1,674.4	1,733.9

¹ Sweet corn on-cob not converted to cut equivalent. ² Peas and carrots mixed not included.

Generally Steady Prices

With supplies of all processed vegetables the largest in recent seasons, wholesale prices are likely to be steady to slightly weaker on the average this season. Processors' costs in making packs were, of course, higher again this year, thus processors are reluctant to make more than slight price concessions to move products. Already there have been more promotional allowances offered buyers this fall than during the past two marketing seasons.

PROSPECTS FOR LEADING ITEMS

Peas

Total tonnage of peas for canning and freezing was 4 percent less than the contracted volume of 1974. The canned pack, at 33 million cases 24/303's, was practically the same as a year earlier. With a more average-sized carryover, the total supply of 38 million cases is the largest since 1972, when subsequent annual disappearance was 34 million cases. It would take this much movement again to prevent a burdensome carryover at the end of the current marketing period. Since supplies of other competing canned vegetables are more adequate, it would seem that wholesale prices may be coming under some downward pressure before the next pack is made.

Canned green peas: Supply and disappearance

	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76
	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>
Carryover	3.6	1.5	4.5
Pack	29.6	33.1	33.2 ¹
Total supply	33.2	34.6	37.7 ¹
Disappearance ...	31.7	30.1	

¹ Estimate.

The pack of frozen peas at 397 million pounds was 5 percent less this season, but with the largest carryover since 1970 supplies will be ample. October 1 stocks of 363 million pounds were 14 percent larger than a year ago the same date. Under these conditions, trading prices (not list prices) have moved substantially lower than during the first half of this year. Institutional packs (2½ lb.) were listed at 31½¢ per pound in late September but trading as low as 24-26¢ per pound for large lots is taking place.

During August USDA purchased 187,000 cases of #10 canned peas under Section 6 at prices ranging from \$6.91 to \$7.65 per case. At the same time, 415,350 cases of 30 lb. frozen bulk pack were bought. The combined value of canned and frozen

purchases came to nearly \$3.5 million. No pea purchases were made during 1974/75.

Snap Beans

The August U.S. crop estimate for snap beans contracted for canning and freezing combined called for 670,100 tons, 5 percent less than 1974. Acreage for harvest was 4 percent less, and average yields have been slightly lower for the United States as a whole.

In the Midwest, especially Wisconsin, recent trade reports note good yields from increased acreage. This will tend to negate the effect of the nationwide reduced acreage plans made by processors earlier this year. In both Oregon and New York, the other two leading bean producers, tonnage is off this year.

Canned snap beans: Supply and disappearance

	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76
	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>
Carryover	2.7	5.2	15.3
Pack	55.0	62.3	56.1-59.5 ¹
Total supply	57.7	67.5	71.4-74.8 ¹
Disappearance ...	52.5	52.2	

¹ As of Nov. 1.

A substantial reduction in canned bean pack was necessary this year if a surplus were to be avoided because the July 1 carryover of 15.3 million cases was record large. Annual disappearance has amounted to 52 million cases the 2 past seasons. But even with moderately increased use this marketing year, remaining supplies will still be heavy. With this prospect, wholesale prices have weakened in recent weeks. Wholesale prices for fancy cut beans, Midwest origin, moved in late September to the \$4.50-\$5.00 range per case of 24/303's, compared with \$5.70 early in 1975. The institutional size 6/10 is even weaker, \$6.50-\$6.75, compared with \$8.50 listed last March. Similar price weakness was evident in the Pacific Northwest and in New York.

With a record large carryover of frozen snap beans, a record large supply could develop this season. The acreage cuts planned earlier may turn out to have been insufficient. Present indications suggest a moderately larger total supply of frozen beans for 1975/76. October 1 stocks were 10 percent above a year earlier. With the prospect of larger supplies, institutional peas were being billed at 30-31¢ per pound, down from 35¢ last fall and more than 25¢ two years ago.

Thus far this fiscal year, USDA has purchased 9.6 million pounds of canned beans valued at \$1.3 million. These purchases were made for child nutrition programs and for needy persons. Comparable

figures a year earlier were 17.7 million pounds purchased for \$3.2 million.

Sweet Corn

Tonnage of sweet corn contracted for processing is expected to reach 2.2 million, 8 percent more than the frost-curtailed 1974 output. Both acreage and yield are higher this season. The Pacific Northwest and Midwest are sporting larger tonnages, but in the Mid-Atlantic area, tonnage is less.

Canned sweet corn: Supply and disappearance

	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76
	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>
Carryover	6.3	3.9	5.1
Pack	55.2	46.4	50.0-53.0 ¹
Total supply	61.5	50.3	55.1-58.1 ¹
Disappearance ...	57.6	45.2	

¹ Estimate.

With a sharply reduced supply last season, the carryover into the current marketing season was small. Therefore, a larger 1975 pack can be handled without difficulty. An 8-percent larger pack could result in about 50 million cases, creating a total supply close to the disappearance of recent years, except for 1974/75 when the supply was so short. With this supply prospect, canned corn prices have weakened less than other canned vegetables. There are some seasonal promotional allowances being offered, and in general prices are roughly a dollar per case less than early this year.

The carryover of frozen corn was 80 million pounds on August 1, larger than any recent years except 1969 and 1970. Active packing was still taking place in the Pacific Northwest, west of the Cascades on October 1, but had largely wound up elsewhere in that region. Quotations were nominal at this writing but some weakening, following the pattern of other items, is expected. Nonetheless, stocks on October 1 were 4 percent smaller than October 1 last year.

USDA purchased 195,800 cases of #10's for the needy and child nutrition programs, and, for the first time, 9.2 million pounds of frozen corn were also purchased in September. There were no canned purchases made during 1974/75.

Tomatoes

Raw product tonnage of tomatoes for processing is expected to be well over 8 million tons, substantially more than the record quantity contracted a year ago. California tonnage is estimated at least 84 percent of this total. In that State record large weekly deliveries exceeding 800,000 tons have been made this year. The average yield of 22.7 tons per

acre there is off slightly from last season. The mid-western States of Ohio and Indiana have sharply larger crops this year. Yields there are much improved from the lows of two prior seasons.

Complete data for all products are not available, but carryovers of canned, juice, and puree were larger. These large packs will bring on the largest supplies of recent years.

Canned tomatoes: Supply and disappearance

	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76
	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>	<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>
Carryover	5.6	3.1	5.3
Pack	45.4	43.8	
Total supply	51.0	46.9	
Disappearance	47.9	41.6	

Available data on canned tomatoes show that disappearance in 1974/75 fell substantially below the record made a year earlier. High retail prices and advance buying back in 1973/74 probably were responsible. The 1974 pack, while not record large, was adequate to have supported heavier disappearance. Despite the prospect of heavier supplies, list prices for California standard #303's and other packs have not changed greatly since March.

With larger available supplies, juice disappearance this past season moved back to more normal levels—35.5 million cases. This left an average carryover of nearly 6 million cases. A large 1975 pack is expected, and the currently steady list prices may begin to feel some downward pressure before the 1975/76 market season is finished.

The supply outlook for concentrated products, paste, catsup, and sauce, also suggests generous supplies in 1975/76.

With larger domestic supplies of tomatoes this year, imports of tomatoes and products are not likely to be large again this year.

Lima Beans

Lima bean tonnage for canning and freezing is 99,700 tons, 16 percent more than last year. Increased acreage with some improvement in yields is bringing on this larger crop. Cannery had contracted for a slightly larger acreage this year in the expectation of a small carryover which again turned out to be the case.

On October 1, combined stocks of frozen Fordhook and baby limas were larger than either of the past three seasons when supplies were on the tight side. On the other hand, 107 million pounds is still far from the record for the month. Wholesale prices have moved in a narrow range throughout the past marketing season, 39-40¢ per pound for institutional 2½-pound packs. But in September baby

limas dropped to 36½¢ per pound, probably in anticipation of larger supplies.

Beets

The tonnage of beets available for canning this year at 223,750 is only 3 percent less than last year's large output. With a carryover of more than 4 million cases, there is little question of an adequate supply. In fact, another large beet pack would put prices on a weak basis. Prices have moved down substantially from early year high levels.

Sauerkraut

After two seasons of very light carryover stocks, the 2.7 million #303 case equivalents of 1975 is a more normal level. This larger stock position, coupled with 18 percent less tonnage under contract suggests that supplies probably will be in reasonably good balance with expected needs this season. New York fancy sauerkraut in #303's recently sold for a dollar per case below the March 1975 figure, but Midwestern packs were off only about 30¢ per case.

Pickles

The planted acreage under contract this season was up 8 percent over last year to 131,210. Statistics on tonnage produced and stocks will be available on November 14. The leading trade source noted that July 1 stocks of pickles were about a tenth below the relatively small quantity on hand the same date a year earlier. The 1975 crop expectations will be large enough to bring supplies more in line with other recent seasons, provided yields hold near average.

Spinach

The 1975 spring pack of frozen spinach was 122 million pounds, a decrease of a fifth from the record set last year. October 1 stocks were moderately less than the relatively large supplies on hand the same date a year earlier. Prices have strengthened the past three months after having been depressed this past spring. This item has followed a different price pattern than other canned and frozen vegetables, in that most vegetables now cost less at wholesale than was the case in the spring of 1975.

Stocks of canned spinach on August 1 were 6.6 million cases against 5.8 million a year earlier. California prices in September were about the same as a year earlier, after allowance is made for promotional deals.

Asparagus

The 1975 pack of canned asparagus was 3.55 million cases 24/303's, 37 percent below a year ear-

lier. But with a large carryover, the total supply for the current season came to 5.95 million cases, only 13 percent less. Shipping activity thus far this season has lagged moderately compared with 1974. Prices are sharply less too.

Frozen asparagus stocks are relatively light—only 15 million pounds as of October 1. It is possible that some of this total is imported from Taiwan or Mexico.

California and Washington grower groups have asked the U.S. International Trade Commission to investigate whether asparagus imports are causing serious injury to domestic producers. As a result of their complaint, public hearings have been held during October in Washington and San Francisco. Usually, the Commission publishes a report of their findings.

Other Frozen Vegetables

Combined stocks of other frozen vegetables—broccoli, cauliflower and carrots—are at about the same levels of a year earlier. At the time, these stocks were considered high. However, there is some question whether increased consumer demand would easily support these higher stock levels this year. Carrot stocks on October 1 were 78 million pounds. There were 88 million pounds of broccoli and 47 million pounds of cauliflower on hand the same date. Additional packs of some of these items may be made in calendar 1975. Frozen onion stocks are lighter than usual this year, and with a slightly smaller crop of raw onions to compete with, prices are likely to advance.

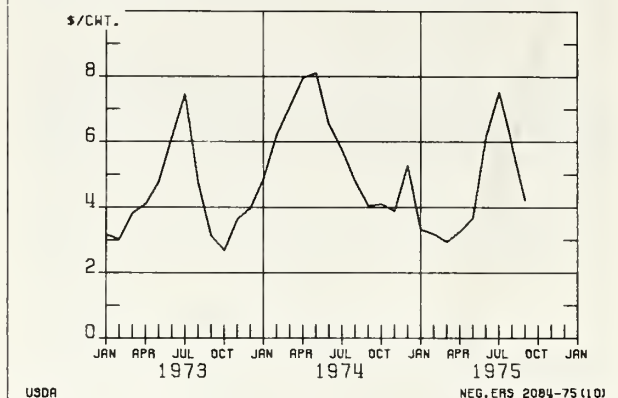
POTATOES

Crop Production

Fall crop potato outturn for the U.S. is set at 267 million cwt., a drop of 8 percent from the record fall crop in 1974. However, with much less shrink expected this year, supplies may not be off as much as implied by the production estimate alone. On a per person basis, a production this size is nearer the 1972 or 1973 seasons when farm prices were at very high levels. Cash markets opened at higher-than-usual prices this harvest but potato sales volume finally picked up later in October, at moderately lower prices. Acreage for harvest was reduced 8 percent from last year but yields advanced just under 1 percent. In 1975/76, adjustments downward in most uses of the potato crop are likely to coincide with grower prices moderately above the October-April 1974/75 period.

Maine's total production dropped to 26.8 million cwt. this year, due about equally to declines in acreage and yield. A year before, 36.4 million cwt. was grown. Growers now appear to be interested in storing potatoes, because the crop is so much shorter than a year ago. Stocks on December 1

POTATOES: U.S. GROWER PRICES



may be in the neighborhood of 24 million cwt., or nearly 20 percent off from December 1, 1974. The 8 Eastern States combined expect to harvest 47.8 million cwt. of potatoes this fall, 21 percent less than 1974. Yields in New York and Pennsylvania tended to make up some of the volume lost by Maine's potato crop.

Crop production in all of the important Central States is down from 1974. Contributing to the lack of output in Minnesota and North Dakota was loss of plantings in flooding during early summer. Some planting first thought to be lost actually did produce some potatoes. Yields, however, point out how poorly that acreage fared. Minnesota's yield per harvested acre dropped 8 percent from 1974; North Dakota's 6 percent.

Western States actually produced a potato quantity larger than 1974. Newly developed desert type land in Oregon, Nevada, and Washington is primarily responsible. Overall, the West intends to dispose of 165.8 million cwt., about 3 million sacks more than last season. Given a return to a normal end-of-year frozen product inventory position, then processors should be able to get by with 5-6 million cwt. less Northwest crop into that use than was the case July-December of 1974.

Storage

This year growers have more options than in years when they were forced to store crop. More storages have been built recently, particularly in the Pacific Northwest, to facilitate orderly release of crop to fresh and manufacturing outlets.

On the other hand, a slowdown in fourth quarter dehydration and freezing activity will keep storage totals higher than what a U.S. crop of 267 million cwt. would normally imply. Pacific Northwest storages could have a December 1 stocks position well above the 89.8 million cwt. under cover in 1974.

Grower Price Outlook

With relatively high cash prices to open, bigger than hoped-for shed totals early in the winter, but overall less crop, price patterns nationally could have a broad "saucer" shape. This means: firm prices until late November, slightly lower shipping point quotes until perhaps mid-February, and an end-of-season upswing through March and April. This end-of-season upswing could be dampened by a large spring crop from Kern County, California. Heaviest use by processors in January, February, and March, 1976 should tend to push April 1 stocks low enough so that the few remaining supplies will command prices substantially higher than the depressed levels of early 1975.

Winter Prospects

Planting intentions for California and Florida potatoes are 13,400 acres, down 7 percent from 1975. These States usually complement potato supplies from storage areas.

Utilization Reported

Processing use in 1974/75, reported by the Statistical Reporting Service, totaled 154.8 million cwt., 8 percent above the previous high set in 1973/74. But processing's percentage of potatoes for food use declined from 57.3 to 55.5 percent. Reason: price and supply joined with a general business recession to push tablestock sales up from 107 to 124 million cwt. Processed products should return to a bigger share of the market in 1975/76 utilization.

Depressed price prospects diminished sales and on-farm utilization in the seedstock item, 6.7 percent lower than 1973. A turnaround, but not as dramatic as between 1972 and 1973, is expected for seed sales in 1975/76.

Low-valued or "residual" uses of potatoes all climbed in 1974, typical in years of large crop production. Shrinkage and loss totaled 32 million cwt., compared to 18 million cwt. a year prior. Livestock feed use on-farm, a small but volatile component of potato crop use, trebled.

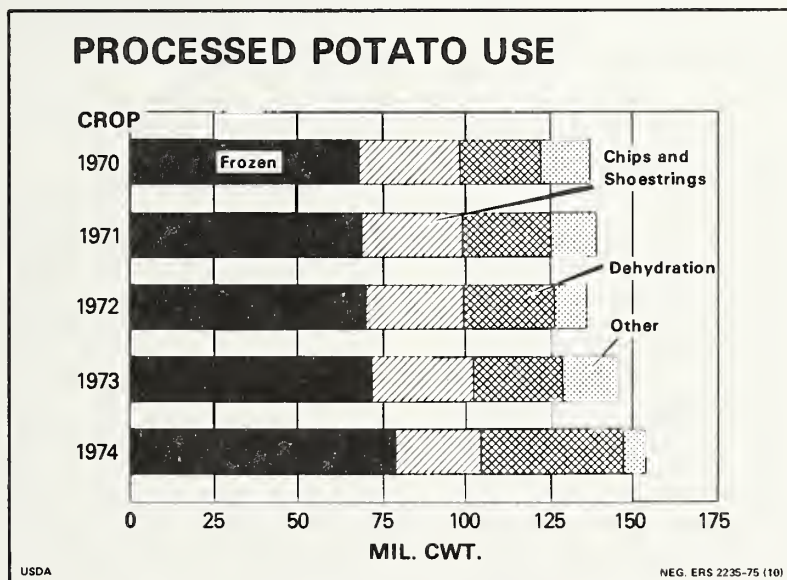
Most surprising, in light of weak demand in early 1975, was the fact that french fries took 69.7 million cwt., 9.4 million cwt. *more* than just 1 year before. After high-valued contract obligations were met for the 1974 crop, processors turned to cheaper open-market potatoes to create this record sum. Other frozen use dropped marginally by 3 percent, to 9.3 million cwt. of crop.

Flake and granule activity jumped in 1974/75, spurred as much by inexpensive raw product as by any addition to final demand. While dehydration took 34.5 million cwt., 10 percent above 1973/74, trade sources report sales of consumer packaged dehydrated potatoes off 25-30 percent. Industrial (restructured chips, principally) users' demands also grew less than expected. Consequently, flake surpluses in manufacturers' hands alone could be 35-50 million pounds. Users have big stocks as well.

Chippers, having reduced typical package weights to keep competitive shelf prices, needed just 32.8 million cwt. from the 1974 crop, down from 34.5 million cwt. in 1973. In the year ending June 30, 1975, there were 14 fewer chip manufacturing plants operating in the U.S., continuing the long-term trend toward fewer but larger production facilities.

Outlook For Utilization 1975/76

With a smaller fall crop this season, tablestock use can be expected to contract sharply from the 124 million cwt. used a year ago. An estimated 105-



110 million cwt. could be used this way, more in line with 1973/74.

The smaller crop will also force some reduction in processed food use—one of the few times this has happened in several years. Currently, large stocks of frozen products have not encouraged a heavy rate of early packing thus far this season. Although trade comments and a limited number of price quotations seem to imply heavy stocks of dehydrated products, quantities of raw potatoes moving into this channel may not greatly change from the roughly 35 million cwt. used in 1974/75. Chipping use may be expected to decline moderately this season, perhaps accounting for about 31 million cwt. Again a limited quantity of 4-5 million cwt. probably will be canned.

When the crop is small, the percentage of the crop reported as shrinkage or loss tends to be lower than in years of generous production. Therefore, the 1975 loss, residual, and feed share will probably look more like the pattern of 1972 and 1973.

Retail Items

Consumer prices of fresh potatoes stayed at relatively high levels this summer. A pound at the produce counter was worth 17.2¢ (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics), up from an average 15.9¢ per pound in third quarter 1974. Drastically curtailed production in 1975—18 percent under the summer before—drove prices up. Shoppers, however, had an opportunity to buy other equally cost-effective potato food for home use during the time when fresh prices were high. Frozen french fries prices remained essentially unchanged throughout 1974/75. The same was true for instant mashed potatoes. Stability in potato food prices is not typically the case, so generous inventories of processed items often hold the key to a degree of price restraint.

SWEETPOTATOES

The U.S. sweetpotato crop is forecast at 14 million cwt., 2 percent more than last year. Crops this size have been more or less typical of the industry ever since the mid-1960's. North Carolina expects to harvest 4.6 million cwt., a sharply larger crop this year as acreage for harvest is substantially larger there and yield prospects remain very good despite some hot dry weather during August. In Louisiana, the other leading producer, both acreage and yield are less than 1974. Among the other more important States producing in the million cwt. range, Virginia and Mississippi have slightly larger crops, while California is off a comparable amount from a year earlier.

As of early October, canners in North Carolina were paying growers of Porto Rico types \$1.25 per 50 pound crate delivered, 10-25¢ per crate less than

last year. On the Eastern Shore of Virginia, prices paid by processors for Jewels, Centennials, and Nemagolds were \$3.30-3.75 per cwt. delivered to the plant. This compares with \$3.80-4.50 last year. Contract prices were \$4.00 both years. The reduced prices paid this year reflect the heavy supplies of canned sweets carried over from 1974.

Pack of canned sweetpotatoes

Season	Million cases 24/303's
1968/69	10.8
1969/70	12.5
1970/71	9.8
1971/72	10.1
1972/73	9.5
1973/74	11.4
1974/75	12.8

In early October, fresh market prices for sweets in North Carolina were substantially higher than a year ago. Prices for uncured, washed and waxed Porto Ricos were mostly \$5.50-6.00 per 50 pound crate of U.S. No. 1 grade. This compares with \$4.00-4.50 last year. During late September and early October, market supplies were limited by wet weather which briefly hindered harvest activity.

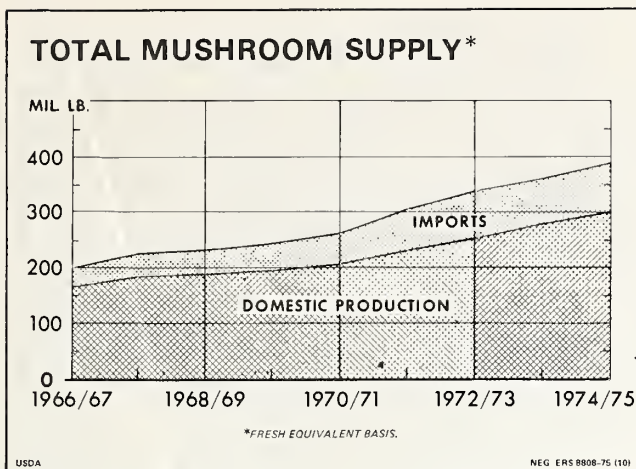
Grower prices this fall and winter probably will show the usual seasonal advance as the storage season progresses. Reduced processor demand will at least be partly offset by fresh market activity which may reflect the relatively high prices prevailing for white potatoes. The U.S. average price received by growers the last quarter of 1974 was \$7.58 per cwt. The prospect this year suggests a price not greatly different.

On September 29, USDA announced the purchase of 429,000 cases of canned sweetpotatoes in syrup and 26,800 cases of instant dehydrated sweets, both packed in cases of 6/105 for school lunch use. Last fiscal year, 257,400 cases and 32,160 cases, respectively, were purchased for use in similar programs.

MUSHROOMS

U.S. mushroom production moved up to 299 million pounds in the 1974/75 season. This was 7 percent greater than a year earlier and a new record high. Pennsylvania alone provided 60 percent of this figure. The average U.S. yield improved to 2.7 pounds per square foot. The U.S. crop was valued at \$147 million at the farm level.

With larger supplies, fresh market sales volume rose sharply to 126 million pounds, nearly duplicating the surge in fresh sales recorded last year. Fresh sales accounted for 42 percent of total production in 1974. Two years earlier the figure was only 30 percent. Prices received by growers for fresh mushrooms were up also, reaching 60.7¢ per pound, 3.6¢ per pound more than last year.



Sales to processors were down slightly to 173 million pounds leaving the quantity canned domestically relatively static the past 3 years. Average prices to growers for processing stock did register a moderate gain, moving up to 40.9¢ per pound from 36.7¢ in 1973/74.

Mushroom: Production, use, and value

Season	Output	Processing use	Fresh market use	Farm value
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million dollars
1968/69	189	133	56	67.8
1969/70	194	132	62	72.7
1970/71	207	149	58	89.6
1971/72	231	165	66	106.9
1972/73	254	177	77	110.0
1973/74	279	177	102	123.4
1974/75	299	173	126	147.2

During 1974/75, canned mushroom imports rose about a tenth. This gain more than offset the reduction in the quantity of domestic mushrooms processed. As a result, the supply of canned mushrooms for the third year in a row exceeded 160 million pounds or 0.8 pound per person product weight.

The increased production of mushrooms during 1974/75 was large enough to boost total supply per capita to 1.8 pounds fresh weight equivalent. Since 1967, this figure has increased one-tenth of a pound each year, suggesting that the full market potential for this specialty crop has yet to be reached.

International Trade Commission Hearing

Following receipt of a petition from the domestic mushroom industry on September 17, 1975, the U.S. International Trade Commission on September 30, 1975, instituted an investigation under section 201(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 to determine

the impact of mushroom imports on the U.S. mushroom industry.

A public hearing in connection with this investigation will be held in Washington, D.C., at 10:00 a.m., EST, on Tuesday, January 6, 1976, in the Hearing Room, U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 701 E Street N.W. Requests for appearances at the hearing should be received in writing by the Secretary of the Commission at his offices in Washington not later than noon, Wednesday, December 31, 1975.

U.S. growers intend to increase production area in 1975/76 by 6 percent. This would amount to 117 million square feet devoted to the crop. With renewed demand for canned mushrooms along with a strong market for fresh, grower prices are likely to be at least as high or slightly higher than a year earlier. The degree to which this takes place will depend in some measure on the extent of economic recovery and import activity this winter.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

More Pinto Beans, Fewer Whites

Across the United States, production of dry edible beans is indicated at 18.3 million cwt., a 12 percent drop from 1974, although still 12 percent greater than 2 years ago.

Production of dry beans is up in those States which experienced higher-than-usual prices in 1974/75. By class, most of this gain in tonnage is probably pinto. Combined Colorado, Idaho, and North Dakota acreage harvested is 14 percent above 1974. For these three States a production level 19 percent above last year was reached. North Dakota scored the most impressive return to normal yields, after last year's untimely frost.

Sharp acreage cuts were achieved in those States producing light bean classes (navies, small whites, great northern). Prices throughout 1974/75 were at what growers thought inadequate to justify any other course of action. Area harvested, therefore, in Michigan is 11 percent under 1974; California is down 33 percent. All this adds up to prospects for light class a seasonal supply no higher than 1974/75.

Recent Price Developments

Market prospects for dry edible bean classes have diverged this fall. In Michigan, with indicated production of beans lower than the high-priced 1973/74 season, prices early this season approached \$40 per cwt. This is nearly three times the low point for navies in late spring 1975. Since September, prices have weakened. On the other hand, colored classes—pintos, in particular—are in bigger supply. Prices have dropped substantially since mid-August, when Mexican sources pointed to negligible import requirements there for

1975/76. Last season, Mexico had bought aggressively.

Grower Prices and Outlook

Influenced by the heavy statistical weight accorded Michigan marketings, the Statistical Reporting Service September U.S. average price received by bean growers was pegged at \$26.20 per cwt., the highest level since August 1974. Throughout last season, average farm prices had stuck around \$17-\$22 per cwt.

High-valued navy pea beans led the September advance, with Wolverine State producers receiving \$30.40 per cwt., a tidy advance from \$16.00 in August. Dull markets in Colorado knocked grower averages there from \$30.40 in August to \$23.50 per cwt. in September. Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming farm prices were all subject to the same lackluster prospect for weak pinto exports in the face of generous crop production.

For the near term, dry bean prices for Rocky Mountain producers and dealers appear to still be seeking a lower equilibrium. Probably only an adjustment in Mexican import strategy could offer a fillip to demand for U.S. crop.

On the other hand, navy pea bean growers reacted to 1975/76 supply conditions far more rapidly than they did at the start of 1973/74 marketings. Then, they shipped early in the fall to export channels. Farmers were receiving \$15-\$25 per cwt.; but in 1975, it has taken \$22-\$35 per cwt. dealer offers to draw new crop from the farm. What this suggests is that producers have a more wary attitude toward rapid, heavy sales. However, trade sources point to a larger inventory of dry edible beans in Michigan carried in from 1974. So growers' objectives to obtain the same amount of income from 1975/76 marketings as 2 years ago would require a tight storage strategy but would also tend to prevent farm prices from later reaching the upper \$40.00/cwt. peak scaled in late-February 1974.

California Situation

At the open of 1975/76 California selling, dry bean warehouses there reported 800,000 bags (cwt.) stored, excluding an uncertain quantity of blackeyes. But given the usual pattern of blackeye marketings, plus some new crop among other classes, a total statewide bean carryin of 1.2 million cwt. could be inferred. This is clearly much larger than growers and shippers desire to hold, since California holdings of all classes were 489,000 cwt. in September 1974. Adding stocks with crop production this year for all dry bean classes in California means a 1975/76 supply of 14 percent lower than 1974/75. Selected crop values are likely to see improvement over earlier 1975 prices.

Review by Classes

Recent shipping point quotes for large limas (California country warehouse) ran at \$31.25 per cwt. At their extended lows in January through June 1975, this class was worth \$21-\$22. They strengthened sympathetically in August when other bean crop forecasts suggested fewer would be available this season. Of course, an indication of 28 percent smaller California outturn of large limas prompted a good deal of the rise since late July. Baby lima production, forecast 30 percent lower than 1974, has led a similar price reaction as with large lima beans. F.o.b. dealers' platform, this class was worth about \$21.25 per cwt. as of mid-October, up from \$15.00 in midsummer.

For the time being, blackeyes are showing unusual strength. Since July 1, prices have risen in steady fashion, with mid-October dealer quotes (California country warehouse) at \$22 per cwt. A year before, \$16.50-\$17.00 was the typical mid-October range for shipments. If shippers can successfully replace white beans with blackeyes in certain markets, then their heavy inventories could be drawn down in order to stage a further, modest price advance later in 1975/76 selling.

Pinto prices, at Colorado shipping points, have been weak relative to a year earlier. Mid-October prices of \$24.00-\$24.50 per cwt. have shown a degree of recent strength. It has been a full two years since anything this low has been seen in the marketplace. Trade observers expect further easing of prices, unless export prospects improve. If substantial export volume fails to materialize, lower price levels cannot be ruled out.

Red kidney beans (light) are this fall valued just about the same as a year ago. A hundredweight, f.o.b. California country warehouse, was \$31-\$32 as of mid-October. Markets responded to general weather conditions in Michigan, although output was probably not as adversely affected as yields on navy bean producing acreage.

Great Northern beans, shipped at Idaho points, started this fall at \$24.50, down from \$26.50 in 1974. They had traded as low as \$17.00 during price weakness in spring 1975. Fastest appreciation, though, took place in September 1975. Nearly \$6.00 per cwt. was added on in that month. More will be known about the exact 1975 production of this and other classes, by State, in the general crop production report annual summary. Release date: mid-January.

Michigan navy pea beans appear this season to be the outstanding performers—at least in terms of grower/dealer prices. Yields per harvested acre there (most acreage, except red kidneys, is the pea bean) are estimated at 980 pounds per acre, a drop from 1974's 1200. Yield decline is attributed to damage from rain at the close of August in con-

junction with waterlogged fields that made for untimely harvest activity. Dealers quoted \$38.50 per cwt. in early fall, up from the \$21.00 before rains had compromised crop availability. And for a 2-week period in September, markets were so unsettled that no price was available. At an elevated level of \$35-\$40, there is the likelihood that many farmers and dealers can more than recoup bean losses that hit marketings practically all of 1974/75.

Retail Prices

Consumers have probably seen the low point in per pound bagged dry bean prices. They declined each month from June 1974—80.4¢ per pound—to July 1975, 35.7¢. August and September prices showed an increase, and when bagging from current procurement hits the supermarket shelf, consumers will likely find prices 10-20¢ per pound above August and September. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) surveys the retail navy bean prices and Great Northerns in a few instances, so cannot completely take into account potentially less costly pintos.

Ontario; Other Foreign

Planted acreage of dry beans in Ontario was cut back in 1975 to about 135,000 acres. Last year, 156,000 acres produced a big crop—nearly 2.0 million cwt. in Ontario. A crop under 1.5 million cwt could be the case this year with prices similar to Michigan opportunities.

From Mexico, the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service grain and feed report of August 13 highlighted a return to typical yields. In 1974, unfavorable weather pushed yields downward to an abnormal 470kg/ha. But a rebound occurred this season, with 550kg/ha. the average grower experience. Import requirements for 1975/76 are not expected to be heavy, a sharp reversal from heavy shipments from Rocky Mountain States in 1974/75.

In the 1974/75 market year, the U.S. exported 5.1 million cwt. of dry edible beans. The season before, 3.3 million cwt. left the U.S. Not surprisingly, the big customers continued to be the United Kingdom, Mexico, Japan, and Algeria.

USDA Activity

Under Section(s) 6 and 32 feeding and commodity programs, USDA has so far in fiscal year 1976 purchased 0.5 million pounds of dry beans. In fiscal 1975 none were bought until January. Consideration is now being extended to pinto buys, since costs are relatively competitive compared to fiscal 1975.

DRY PEAS

Supplies of dry peas will not be large this season, since U.S. production of 2.2 million cwt. is 1 million cwt. less than a year earlier. Both acreage and yield in Washington and Idaho are less. Grower prices have held steady thus far in 1975 because of the heavy supply of old crop dominating the markets. Prices have moved in a narrow range, 7.2¢-8.7¢, all through 1975. As supplies are worked off, prices may be expected to rise by early 1976.

Exports of peas for 1974/75 were 2.4 million cwt. up 41 percent over the previous season, reflecting the large supply on hand. Just the same, these export levels were far short of any record. Japan and Taiwan were heavy purchasers this past season. On the other hand, lentil exports of 85 million pounds, were record large, and it was this export trade which helped keep lentil prices much higher than yellow or green peas this past season.

Early October prices from the leading trade associations quoted greens at \$7.50 versus \$13.00 a year earlier. Yellows were also \$7.50 against \$10.50 last year, and lentils were down to \$12.50 compared with \$15.00 in 1974.

Table 1—Harvested acreage and production of commercial vegetables for processing

Commodity	Harvested acreage			Production			
	1973	1974	For harvest 1975 ²	1973	1974	Indicated 1975 ²	1975 as percentage of 1974
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Beans, lima	77.5	72.2	78.3	98.1	86.0	99.7	116
Beans, snap	292.2	289.4	264.2	741.6	743.2	670.1	90
Beets	16.4	18.5	18.4	200.8	240.6	223.8	93
Corn, sweet	453.9	459.2	486.6	2,179.2	2,054.8	2,203.2	107
Peas, green	420.6	425.6	437.7	500.8	572.7	548.8	96
Spinach (winter and spring)	21.0	22.3	21.1	140.4	160.2	151.2	94
Tomatoes	295.1	337.7	374.0	5,934.6	7,019.8	7,962.6	113
Total with production ¹	1,576.7	1,624.8	1,680.3	9,795.6	10,877.2	11,859.2	109
Cabbage for Kraut	13.0	13.8	N.A.	219.2	278.6	227.2	82
Cucumbers for pickles	128.5	154.7	N.A.	609.2	606.0	N.A.	N.A.
Spinach (fall)	5.9	2.6	N.A.	30.0	13.6	N.A.	N.A.
Total-9 vegetables ¹	1,724.2	1,776.0	N.A.	10,654.0	11,775.4	N.A.	N.A.

¹ May not add to total due to rounding. n.a.—not available. ² Contract.

Vegetable Processing, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 2—Fall potatoes: Production by areas, United States

Year	8 Eastern States	8 Central States	8 ³ Western States	Fall total ¹
	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>
1969	63	56	133	253
1970	65	57	146	268
1971	64	62	140	267
1972	51	55	142	249
1973	49	56	148	254
1974	60	65	163	289
1975 ²	48	53	166	267

¹ May not add to total due to rounding. ² Indicated as of October 1. ³ Nine states beginning 1974.

Data from Crop Production, SRS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 3—Sweetpotatoes: Production by areas, United States

Area	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974 ¹	1975 ²
	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>
Central Atlantic ³ ...	2,091	1,515	1,447	1,298	1,535	1,509	1,571
Lower Atlantic ⁴ ...	4,790	4,628	4,148	4,660	4,385	4,633	5,579
Central ⁵	6,617	6,610	5,496	5,741	5,686	6,403	5,673
California	872	656	627	754	928	1,106	1,152
Total	14,370	13,409	11,718	12,453	12,534	13,651	13,975

¹ Preliminary. ² Indicated. ³ New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia. ⁴ North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. ⁵ Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas. Kansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico discontinued beginning 1969.

Data from Crop Production, SRS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 4—Dry edible beans: Production by areas, United States¹

Year	Michigan	New York	Northwest ²	Southwest ³	California	Other	U.S. total ⁴
	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>
1969	8.1	.9	4.8	2.2	2.9		18.9
1970	6.1	.7	5.5	2.3	2.7		17.4
1971	5.6	.8	5.4	2.0	2.1		15.9
1972	7.1	.3	6.4	1.8	2.5		18.1
1973	5.3	.4	6.3	1.6	2.7	.1	16.4
1974 ⁵	7.2	.5	7.1	1.8	4.0	.1	20.8
1975 ⁶	5.2	.6	7.6	2.1	2.6	.2	18.3

¹ Cleaned basis. ² Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington. ³ Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. Beginning 1973 New Mexico discontinued. ⁴ May not add to total due to rounding. ⁵ Preliminary. ⁶ Indicated.

Data from Crop Production, SRS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 5—Average retail price of specified fresh and canned items, by months, 1973 to date

Item and year	Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
FRESH												
Onions (pound)												
1973	20.3	24.0	28.9	34.5	41.6	27.8	24.1	23.4	19.3	18.8	19.3	20.3
1974	20.0	25.5	25.3	21.4	19.5	20.6	20.2	21.7	20.6	19.7	18.2	17.0
1975	16.2	15.4	17.1	20.6	27.8	29.2	32.7	38.0				
Cabbage (pound)												
1973	14.4	14.7	18.3	18.4	21.5	17.9	18.4	19.4	17.6	19.6	16.9	16.4
1974	16.4	15.9	17.4	15.9	16.4	18.0	17.5	15.4	14.2	14.1	15.6	16.0
1975	16.9	17.2	17.2	17.2	16.9	19.2	17.2	15.0				
Celery (pound)												
1973	24.3	24.1	23.9	21.7	24.1	23.8	26.1	31.7	23.3	22.5	21.6	20.7
1974	21.6	21.5	21.6	21.1	23.7	25.6	28.4	25.3	22.9	24.4	26.7	24.1
1975	23.9	23.6	23.1	23.5	25.0	26.5	28.6	26.6				
Lettuce (head)												
1973	39.0	36.4	36.6	43.9	45.2	61.0	51.6	50.6	36.0	34.4	34.7	32.6
1974	32.7	32.5	37.4	35.0	49.2	51.5	49.5	39.4	41.8	42.7	51.8	43.9
1975	39.5	48.5	40.3	38.0	39.2	42.0	37.5	39.5				
Tomatoes (pound)												
1973	58.0	51.8	48.9	47.2	44.8	48.3	57.0	50.1	36.4	39.3	47.8	48.8
1974	56.5	61.3	58.7	47.7	63.2	63.8	58.9	45.3	44.7	44.2	53.0	60.8
1975	60.0	61.9	62.0	56.8	55.1	66.6	81.3	48.1				
CANNED												
Peas (No. 303 can)												
1973	26.3	26.4	26.7	26.9	26.7	26.9	26.9	27.0	27.2	27.5	27.8	28.0
1974	28.3	28.7	29.1	29.3	29.9	30.5	31.3	33.8	34.5	35.2	37.3	38.1
1975	38.7	39.2	39.3	39.4	39.4	39.2	39.7	39.2				
Tomatoes (No. 303 can)												
1973	23.4	23.8	23.9	24.2	24.4	24.5	24.7	24.8	25.0	25.1	25.9	26.1
1974	26.7	27.2	27.6	28.3	29.0	29.1	29.6	30.2	31.5	32.0	33.0	33.7
1975	34.3	34.6	34.9	35.3	35.4	35.4	35.5	35.5				
POTATOES												
Tablestock (10 lbs.)												
1973	103.4	111.1	119.3	124.7	134.2	164.8	181.2	183.9	129.2	123.2	131.3	135.9
1974	137.1	163.4	191.2	197.3	239.0	234.3	201.7	151.5	123.0	119.8	120.9	118.0
1975	112.7	111.1	104.2	100.3	112.0	135.0	199.3	178.7				
Frozen French												
Fries (9 oz. pkg.)												
1973	16.8	16.7	16.8	16.9	17.0	17.1	17.1	17.1	17.4	17.6	18.0	18.4
1974	18.4	18.6	19.1	20.1	21.2	21.6	22.7	24.4	25.0	25.2	25.6	25.4
1975	25.8	25.9	25.8	25.7	25.3	25.1	25.1	25.3				
Inst. Mashed												
(7 oz. pkg.)												
1973	40.8	41.0	41.8	42.5	42.8	43.1	43.0	42.9	43.1	43.3	43.7	44.2
1974	45.0	45.9	46.4	46.9	48.1	50.0	51.9	53.0	53.8	55.7	56.3	57.0
1975	55.8	55.9	55.7	56.2	55.9	55.9	55.7	55.7				

Retail prices, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 6—Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Commercial acreage and production of principal crops, selected seasons, 1973, 1974, and indicated 1975

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage for harvest				Production			
	1973	1974	1975		1973	1974	1975	
			Indi- cated	Percent- age of 1974			Indi ¹ cated	Percent- age of 1974
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter	174.2	196.1	170.9	87	31.1	34.8	33.4	96
Spring	366.2	341.0	339.7	100	53.8	53.0	52.7	99
Summer	600.8	545.4	554.6	102	74.6	71.4	70.4	99
Fall: ²								
Beans, snap	18.4	14.3	14.8	103	.6	.5	.5	100
Broccoli ³	16.5	15.0	13.6	91	1.2	1.2	1.0	83
Cabbage ³	32.0	30.2	28.4	94	7.8	8.2	7.2	88
Cantaloups	2.7	3.1	2.9	94	.3	.4	.3	75
Carrots ³	27.8	23.6	23.3	99	9.5	8.0	7.6	95
Cauliflower ³	13.1	13.0	12.8	98	1.5	1.3	1.4	108
Celery ³	9.8	8.6	8.1	94	5.1	4.6	4.2	91
Corn, sweet	15.7	17.9	18.4	103	1.2	1.3	1.4	108
Cucumbers	11.4	13.3	14.5	109	1.0	1.3	1.4	108
Eggplant6	.8	.9	113	.1	.1	.2	200
Escarole	1.8	1.8	1.9	106	.2	.2	.2	100
Honeydew melons5	.7	.9	129	.1	.1	.2	200
Lettuce	66.0	54.6	55.0	101	13.0	11.9	11.4	96
Peppers, green ³	10.4	11.1	11.9	107	1.3	1.7	1.6	94
Spinach	2.5	2.8	2.8	100	.1	.1	.2	200
Tomatoes	27.1	20.1	22.1	110	4.8	4.4	4.0	91
Total fall to date ⁴	256.2	230.7	232.4	101	47.8	45.5	42.6	94
Total acreage and production reported to date ⁴	1,397.4	1,313.2	1,297.6	99	207.3	204.7	199.1	97

¹ Based on average yield per acre. ² October, November, and December. ³ Includes fresh market and processing. ⁴ May not add due to rounding.

Vegetables-Fresh Market, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 7—Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (wholesale lots) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available), indicated periods 1974 and 1975

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday			
			1974		1975	
			Sept. 17	Oct. 8	Sept. 16	Oct. 7
			<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
New York						
Beans, snap, green						
round green	New Jersey	Bu. bskt.	5.00	---	6.75	5.25
Broccoli	California	14's, crt.	6.00	5.50	7.25	5.00
Cabbage, domestic						
round type	New Jersey	Various crates	2.00	2.125	3.75	3.50
Cantaloups	California	Jumbo crt. 36's	13.00	19.00	---	14.00
Carrots, topped						
washed	California	48 1-lb. film bag, ctn.	8.00	7.75	8.50	7.00
Cauliflower	Long Island	Crt. 12's	3.75	4.75	7.00	6.00
Celery, Pascal	New York	2-3 doz.	6.25	5.00	6.75	6.50
Celery, Pascal	California	2-3 doz.	9.00	6.50	8.50	10.00
Cucumbers	Virginia	Bu. bskt.	7.25	12.00	6.75	7.25
Corn, sweet	New York	5 doz. crate	2.75	5.00	4.87	4.00
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2-doz. cnt.	4.25	6.25	6.25	7.50
Onions, yellow Spanish						
large	Idaho—Oregon	50 lb. sack	4.90	4.75	9.75	7.75
Onions, yellow globe						
medium	New York	50 lb. sack	---	---	5.15	5.00
Spinach, savory	New Jersey	Bu. bskt.	6.00	5.00	6.00	5.75
Chicago						
Beans, snap, green						
round green	Illinois	Bu. hamper	6.00	---	8.00	8.25
Broccoli	California	14's crt.	6.00	5.25	7.00	6.25
Cabbage, domestic						
round type	Illinois	Various crates	2.50	2.50	2.85	2.85
Cantaloups	California	Jumbo crt., 36's	---	17.50	13.50	12.00
Cauliflower	California	Ctns., film wrpd., 12's	6.50	5.75	8.50	6.25
Celery, Pascal	Michigan	2-4 doz.	6.50	4.75	7.00	6.50
Cucumbers	Illinois	Bu. bskt.	8.25	---	7.25	---
Green Peppers	Illinois	Bu. bskt., lge.	4.00	4.00	4.00	---
Honeydews	California	Crts., 5-8's	3.75	3.00	4.00	3.75
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. ctn.	4.50	5.75	5.75	6.25
Onions, yellow Spanish						
large	Idaho—Oregon	50 lb. sack	4.60	4.50	8.50	7.50
Onions, yellow globe						
medium	Midwestern	50 lb. sack	4.00	3.75	5.50	5.00
Spinach, flat type	Illinois	Bu. bskt.	---	---	---	5.25
Tomatoes, green, ripens						
and turning, med-lge.	California	2lyr. Lug	4.25	4.75	5.00	4.75

Weekly Summary of terminal Market Prices, AMS., USDA.

Market News Reports.

Table 8—Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, as of 15th of the month, United States by months, 1961 to date¹

(1967=100)

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
1961	74	74	76	95	83	90	81	65	65	65	76	74	76
1962	94	102	125	109	107	84	73	63	64	66	75	85	87
1963	102	95	82	83	78	88	85	65	62	70	91	94	83
1964	100	103	98	89	83	90	80	76	76	78	101	87	88
1965	80	86	101	106	121	102	85	78	78	84	90	88	92
1966	106	112	102	109	97	99	114	101	91	91	103	99	102
1967	103	99	98	108	103	121	110	86	82	88	100	103	100
1968	118	123	127	132	108	98	94	88	92	91	115	119	109
1969	107	111	109	107	121	100	100	96	94	110	144	132	111
1970	134	130	125	112	124	113	103	95	107	96	105	100	112
1971	114	123	149	140	129	127	121	104	100	118	164	137	127
1972	152	132	119	137	127	126	121	128	130	115	144	140	131
1973	159	157	171	196	182	183	179	134	128	126	132	135	157
1974	145	167	137	155	169	169	154	145	145	164	168	159	156
1975 ²	170	188	172	179	174	219	208	162					

¹ All prices reported on f.o.b. basis. ² Preliminary.

Table 9—Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1973 and 1974 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1974 and 1975 by commodities, United States

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
	1973	1974	Canners			Wholesale distributors ¹		
			Date	1974	1975	Date	1974	1975
	<i>1,000 cases 24/303's</i>		<i>1,000 cases 24/303's</i>		<i>1,000 cases 24/303's</i>			
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	55,002	62,319	July 1	5,215	15,325	July 1	4,258	4,134
Beets	11,324	14,819	July 1	863	4,049	July 1	892	987
Corn, sweet	55,227	46,431	July 1	3,885	5,139	July 1	4,638	3,624
Peas, green	29,558	33,120	June 1	1,460	4,541	June 1	2,437	2,745
Sauerkraut	11,834	15,044	Aug. 1	1,262	2,739	July 1	745	709
Total	162,945	171,733		12,685	31,793		12,970	12,199
Tomato items								
Tomatoes	45,431	43,794	July 1	3,098	5,318	July 1	4,608	4,036
Tomato juice	33,936	36,133	July 1	4,866	5,706	July 1	2,431	2,316
Total	79,367	79,927		7,964	11,024		7,039	6,352
Other commodities								
Asparagus	5,794	5,643	Mar. 1	1,199	2,401	Apr. 1	691	535
Beans, lima	3,150	2,523	Aug. 1	240	246	July 1	431	386
Field peas	2,817	2,637						
Carrots	6,160	7,193	July 1	2,215	3,928	July 1	933	727
Okra ³	547	916						
Pickles	67,066	66,724						
Pimentos	269	396						
Pumpkin and squash .	4,632	4,214	July 1	603	304	July 1	347	341
Potatoes	5,658	8,113						
Sweetpotatoes	11,415	12,767						
Spinach	8,944	10,834	Mar. 1	1,832	4,124	Apr. 1	748	743
Other greens	4,029	4,558						
Vegetables, mixed ...	8,898	n.a.						
Total comparable other items	129,379	126,518		6,089	11,003		3,150	2,732
Grand total comparable items ...	371,691	378,178		26,738	53,820		23,159	21,283

¹ Converted from actual cases to standard cases of 24 No. 303 cans. ² Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice. ³ Okra, okra and tomatoes, and okra, corn, and tomatoes. N.A.—not available.

Canners' stock and pack data from the National Canners' Association, pickles and sauerkraut pack SRS derived, sauerkraut stocks National Kraut Packers Assoc. derived. Wholesale distributors' stock from the Bureau of Census.

Table 10—Vegetable, frozen: United States commercial packs 1973 and 1974 cold storage holdings, September 1, 1975 with comparisons

	Packs		Cold storage holdings		
	1973	1974	September 1, 1973	September 1, 1974	September 1, 1975 ¹
	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>	<i>Million pounds</i>
Asparagus	20.2	16.2	27.2	18.5	16.8
Beans, lima:					
Fordhook	51.6	46.2	17.4	14.9	19.1
Baby	98.1	97.2	23.6	22.5	42.1
Total	149.7	143.4	41.0	37.4	61.2
Beans, snap:					
Regular cut	178.3	160.7	142.3	38.1	169.8
French cut	80.5	70.2	61.6	65.5	56.0
Wax	9.5	7.4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Total	288.3	238.3	203.9	203.6	225.8
Broccoli	213.2	245.3	60.6	92.3	91.6
Brussels sprouts	56.8	53.7	16.7	19.1	19.4
Carrots	231.7	248.1	30.1	74.3	81.2
Cauliflower	96.1	93.8	17.7	36.9	41.6
Corn, cut	294.2	298.2	103.8	91.9	130.9
Corn-on-cob	166.8	152.3	45.5	37.8	39.9
Mixed vegetables	124.6 ²	158.1 ²	13.4	27.6	34.5
Onions	114.7	111.2	15.2	30.2	21.0
Peas	387.7	416.7	288.4	331.3	398.5
Peas and carrots	30.3 ³	42.5 ²	7.5	10.4	11.9
Pumpkin and squash	29.0	32.6	(³)	(³)	(³)
Rhubarb	12.9	7.1	(³)	(³)	(³)
Spinach	159.5	177.9	83.3	99.1	93.9
Succotash	6.2 ²	9.2 ²	(³)	(³)	(³)
Kale	4.4	5.0	(³)	(³)	(³)
Okra	40.6	43.0	20.5	43.0	35.3
Peas, blackeye	42.0	30.9	5.5	17.5	12.6
Turnip greens	18.6	11.1	(³)	(³)	(³)
Miscellaneous vegetables	160.9	163.5	167.5	194.0	166.9
Total ⁴	2,467.3	2,488.3	1,147.8	1,365.0	1,508.0
French Fried Potatoes	2,320.3	2,541.7	194.5	269.8	437.5
Other Frozen Potatoes	370.8	443.2	52.2	93.2	97.6
Total Frozen Potatoes	2,691.1	2,984.9	246.7	363.0	535.0
Grand total	5,158.4	5,473.1	1,394.5	1,728.0	2,043.0

¹ Preliminary. ² Considered as repacks and not included in total. ³ Included in miscellaneous vegetables. ⁴ May not add due to rounding.

n.a.—not available. Pack data from American Frozen Food Institute. Stocks from Cold Storage Report, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 11—Vegetables, fresh: Average prices received by farmers, per hundredweight, United States, September 15, 1975 with comparisons

Commodity	1974		1975		
	August	September	July	August	September 1-15
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Beans, snap	16.90	18.30	19.00	19.70	22.40
Broccoli	17.60	16.50	15.00	19.30	20.80
Cabbage	4.02	4.07	4.91	4.81	5.38
Cantaloups	9.20	9.06	9.96	7.83	8.20
Carrots	8.19	9.02	9.88	8.23	8.55
Cauliflower	18.60	17.80	19.10	19.10	23.20
Celery	5.11	6.89	7.64	6.36	8.16
Corn, sweet	7.74	6.90	8.08	6.57	8.64
Cucumbers	8.97	9.94	9.92	8.51	10.40
Lettuce	5.91	6.31	5.50	7.01	8.90
Onions	7.02	6.31	17.20	14.00	11.40
Peppers, green	12.40	15.20	18.20	12.70	13.10
Spinach	14.90	17.30	17.20	18.70	19.30
Tomatoes	14.80	12.50	20.20	14.70	15.40
Watermelons	4.22	5.00	3.44	3.19	3.52

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 12—Fresh and Processed Vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and farm value per unit, sold in New York City, indicated months, 1974 and 1975

Commodity, month, and retail unit	Retail price	Marketing margin		Farm value ^{1 2}	
		Absolute	Percentage of retail value	Absolute	Percentage of retail value
	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fresh:					
Carrots (Pound)					
July 1975	28.6	14.8	52	11.8	48
June 1975	29.0	18.3	63	10.7	38
July 1974	25.6	15.9	62	9.7	38
Celery (Pound)					
July 1975	29.2	21.1	72	8.1	28
June 1975	27.2	18.8	69	8.4	31
July 1974	29.0	20.0	69	9.0	31
Lettuce (Head)					
July 1975	40.1	31.9	80	8.2	20
June 1975	48.8	37.9	78	10.9	22
July 1974	53.7	34.9	65	18.8	35
Onions, dry yellow (Pound)					
July 1975	36.0	22.2	62	13.8	38
June 1975	30.6	20.0	65	10.6	35
July 1974	21.4	16.6	78	4.8	22
Processed: ³					
Beets, sliced, canned (303 can)					
June 1975	33.2	31.0	93	2.2	7
March 1975	33.7	31.5	93	2.2	7
June 1974	29.2	27.6	95	1.6	5
Potatoes, F.F., Frozen (9 oz. pkg.)					
July 1975	24.8	19.8	80	5.0	20
Apr. 1975	25.3	20.3	80	5.0	20
July 1974*	22.9	16.9	74	6.0	26
Sauerkraut, canned (303 can)					
June 1975	30.9	28.5	92	2.4	8
March 1975	32.9	30.5	93	2.4	7
June 1974	30.0	27.9	93	2.1	7
Tomatoes, canned (303 can)					
July 1975	38.4	32.9	86	5.5	14
Apr. 1975	37.9	32.4	85	5.5	15
July 1974	31.2	27.5	88	3.7	12

¹ For quantity of product equivalent to retail unit sold to consumers: Because of waste and spoilage during marketing, equivalent quantity exceeds retail unit. Fresh: F.o.b. shipping point price, Processed: Equivalent packing housedoor returns.

² Production areas: Carrots-California, Celery-California,

Lettuce-California, Onions-Texas, Canned Beets-New York, Frozen F.F. Potatoes-Idaho, Maine, and Washington, Canned Sauerkraut-New York, Canned Tomatoes-Eastern States. ³ Priced quarterly. * Revised.

Table 13—Potatoes, Irish: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1973, 1974, and indicated 1975

Season group	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest 1975	1973	1974 ¹	Indicated 1975	1973	1974 ¹	Indicated 1975
	1973	1974 ¹							
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Winter	14.0	13.7	14.3	204	214	202	2,853	2,933	2,887
Spring	98.9	99.8	80.5	214	243	219	21,213	24,297	17,622
Summer	125.1	132.1	117.5	172	191	175	21,478	25,193	20,552
Fall									
8 Eastern	233.2	238.5	211.1	211	253	227	49,327	60,274	47,826
8 Central	317.6	328.9	271.8	177	199	195	56,115	65,359	52,972
² 9 Western	515.8	573.0	563.5	285	285	294	148,424	163,041	165,785
Total	1,066.6	1,140.4	1,046.4	238	253	255	253,866	288,674	266,583
United States	1,304.6	1,386.0	1,258.7	230	246	244	299,410	341,097	307,644

¹ Revised. ² Eight States for 1973.

Crop production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 14—Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, per hundredweight, U.S. No. 1 grade or better, indicated periods, 1974 and 1975

Shipping point and variety	1974			1975		
	August 17	September 14	October 12	August 16	September 13	October 11
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
New Jersey Round whites	4.10	4.10	3.98	5.25	6.70	6.68
Long Island, N.Y. Round whites	4.62	4.30	4.08	---	7.00	7.00
Michigan Round whites	3.68	4.34	4.14	4.90	5.52	6.02
Minnesota Reds	4.64	4.15	5.08	4.50	4.42	6.01
Colorado Reds	4.38	4.75	5.00	5.00	---	6.50
Washington Norgolds	7.00	6.48	6.25	6.35	6.10	6.28
Washington Russets	---	---	7.00	---	---	6.62

F.O.B. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices for the week ended on indicated date. Compiled from Market News Service reports.

Table 15- Potatoes: U.S. average price received by farmers, per hundredweight, indicated periods, 1974 and 1

	1974			1975		
	July	August	September	July	August	September
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
U.S. farm price	5.74	4.78	4.05	7.51	5.91	4.23
Parity price	4.90	5.23	5.30	5.39	5.34	5.39
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Price as percent of parity	117	91	76	139	111	78

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 16—Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production annual 1973, 1974, and indicated 1975

	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest 1975	1973	1974	Indi- cated 1975	1973	1974	Indi- cated 1975
	1973	1974							
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Central Atlantic ¹	11.1	11.3	11.1	138	134	142	1,535	1,509	1,571
Lower Atlantic ²	34.5	37.5	41.8	127	124	133	4,385	4,633	5,579
Central ³	61.2	64.2	63.1	93	100	90	5,686	6,403	5,673
California	6.4	6.7	7.2	145	165	160	928	1,106	1,152
United States	113.2	119.7	123.2	111	114	113	12,534	13,651	13,975

¹ New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. ² North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. ³ Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 17—Sweetpotatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price (wholesale lots) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods 1974 and 1975

Item	State	Unit	Week ended			
			1974		1975	
			Sept. 14	Oct. 12	Sept. 13	Oct. 11
			<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
F.o.b. shipping points						
Porto Rico type, uncured	Eastern North Carolina points	U.S. no. 1 50 lb. crt.	4.81	4.12	6.21	5.75
Porto Rico type, uncured	Southern Louisiana points	U.S. no. 1 50 lb. crt.	5.38	5.00	7.00	6.55
Porto Rico type, Garnet	Stockton, California	40 lb. ctn.	- - -	7.10	9.00	7.80
			Tuesday			
			1974		1975	
			Sept. 17	Oct. 8	Sept. 16	Oct. 7
			<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Terminal markets						
New York						
Porto Rico, uncured	North Carolina	50 lb. ctn.	6.25	5.50	7.25	7.25
Chicago						
Porto Rico, uncured	Louisiana	50 lb. ctn.	6.75	6.75	8.50	7.75

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices, submitted by the Market News Service representative at each market. compiled from Market News Service reports. The market prices are representative prices for Tuesday of each week and are

Table 18—U.S. average price per hundredweight received by farmers for sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas, indicated periods, 1974 and 1975

Commodity	1974			1975		
	July	August	September	July	August	September
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Field crops:						
Sweetpotatoes	8.60	6.80	6.30	11.70	8.75	8.47
Beans, dry edible	20.90	28.30	21.40	19.80	21.80	26.20
Peas, dry field	---	15.70	13.10	7.90	7.60	7.55

Agricultural Price, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 19—Dry edible beans: Supply and disposition¹

Marketing season beginning September 1	Supplies				Utilization			
	Beginning stocks Sept.	Production	Imports ²	Total	Domestic disappear- ance	Exports ³	Total Disappear- ance	Ending stocks Aug. 31
	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>	<i>Million cwt.</i>
Average								
1950-54	5.3	15.8	.2	21.3	14.8	2.7	17.5	3.8
1955-59	1.6	17.5	.1	19.2	14.9	3.1	18.0	1.2
1960-64	1.6	18.5	.1	20.2	15.7	2.7	18.6	1.6
1965	1.2	16.5	.1	17.8	14.2	2.4	16.6	1.2
1966	1.2	20.0	.1	21.3	15.3	3.8	19.1	2.2
1967	2.2	15.2	.1	17.5	14.4	2.0	16.4	1.1
1968	1.1	17.4	.1	18.6	14.4	2.7	17.1	1.5
1969	1.5	18.9	.1	20.5	14.5	4.3	18.8	1.7
1970	1.7	17.4	.1	19.2	14.2	3.3	17.5	1.7
1971	1.7	15.9	.1	17.7	13.8	2.8	16.6	1.1
1972	1.1	18.1	.2	19.4	14.0	3.9	17.9	1.5
1973	1.5	16.4	.7	18.6	14.0	3.3	17.3	1.3
1974	1.3	20.8	.1	22.2	14.5	5.1	19.6	2.6
1975 ⁴	2.6	18.6	.1	21.3				

¹ Source: SRS, Bureau of the Census and policy and Program Appraisal Division, ASCS. ² Imports include Garbanzos and all beans for seed purposed but exclude Mung Beans. ³ Exports

include Garbanzos, baked beans, all beans for seed purposes and donations to welfare agencies for foreign relief. ⁴ Preliminary.

Table 20—Beans, dry edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1973, 1974, and indicated 1975¹

Group, State and classes	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production ²		
	Harvested		For harvest 1975	1973	1974	Indi- cated 1975	1973	1974	Indi- cated 1975
	1973	1974							
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>
Michigan	560	600	535	950	1,200	980	5,320	7,200	5,243
New York	39	42	47	950	1,230	1,170	371	517	550
Northwest ³	389	486	503	1,620	1,470	1,517	6,303	7,143	7,628
Southwest ⁴	211	204	224	760	889	946	1,604	1,814	2,119
California:									
Large lima	31	33	26	1,720	2,030	1,850	533	670	481
Baby lima	20	28	20	1,890	2,050	2,000	378	574	400
Other	110	166	106	1,634	1,655	1,610	1,797	2,747	1,707
Total California	161	227	152	1,682	1,758	1,702	2,708	3,991	2,588
Other States	8	11	12	1,080	1,310	1,670	83	140	199
United States	1,368	1,570	1,473	1,198	1,325	1,244	16,389	20,805	18,327

¹ Includes beans grown for seed. ² Cleaned basis. ³ Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Washington, Minnesota, and North Dakota. ⁴ Kansas, Colorado, and Utah.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 21—Peas, dry field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1973, 1974, and indicated 1975¹

State	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For Harvest 1975	1973	1974	Indi- cated 1975	1973	1974	Indi- cated 1975
	1973	1974							
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>	<i>1,000 cwt.</i>
Minnesota ³	4.0	1.0	---	1,300	1,300	---	52	13	---
Idaho	48.0	89.0	62.0	1,300	1,500	1,370	624	1,335	849
Washington	81.0	117.0	100.0	1,180	1,530	1,300	956	1,790	1,300
Oregon	3.4	6.0	3.5	970	1,500	1,400	33	90	49
United States	136.4	213.0	165.5	1,221	1,515	1,328	1,665	3,228	2,198

¹ In principal commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry. ² Cleaned basis.

³ Estimates discontinued beginning 1975.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

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OCTOBER 1975

**OUTLOOK CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR
NOVEMBER 17-20, 1975**

The 1976 National Outlook Conference will be held November 17-20 at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C.

The conference will feature presentations and panel discussions. Particular attention will be given to the outlook for agriculture and the general economy in 1976. Sessions on the 1976 outlook for major commodities, foreign trade, and rural family living will make up an important part of the conference as usual. USDA's Economic Research Service and Extension Service sponsor the conference.